

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FINAL

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Herron-Morton Place Historic District

and or common

## 2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by 16th Street, Pennsylvania Street, 22nd Street  
and Central Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Indianapolis N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Marion code 097

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street &amp; number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Center Township Assessor's Office

street &amp; number Room 1321, City County Building

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes ☒ no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

## 7. Description

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☒ good  
☒ fair

☒ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved date N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Herron-Morton Place Historic District is an area of roughly 25 city blocks situated on the north side of the city of Indianapolis. The area is primarily residential in character, with some commercial development at intersections along the major thoroughfares. The area was approximately one mile north of the original city limits as defined in the 1821 Alexander Ralston plan and remained rural in nature throughout the first half of the 19th century. The northeast section was originally a wooded area which found favor as a picnic spot in the 1850's. The western half was marked by marsh-like areas due, in part, to a stream which meandered through the area, flowing eventually into Fall Creek farther to the northwest. None of the original topographical features exists today, having been eliminated in the development of the area beginning in the 1870's.

The area was platted in three major additions, with the earliest section being laid out in 1870 and the final platting occurring in 1891. A simple grid plan, similar to that used in the platting of the original city of Indianapolis, was adopted by each addition. The lot sizes did not remain constant from one addition to the next, nor were they identical with those lots already platted south of 16th Street. As a consequence of this, most of the north-south streets in the area do not line up with those outside of the district. Some of the secondary east-west streets exhibit this same peculiarity.

The majority of the houses in the district were built between 1880 and 1920, when the neighborhood was among the most fashionable in Indianapolis. Most of the residences are large, elegant homes of frame construction, exhibiting extensive exterior detailing. The Queen Anne style is the most plentiful, but examples of Classic Revival, Tudor Revival, and American Foursquare architecture are also found in the area. Less common but nonetheless present in the district are homes of Italianate and Gothic Revival design. Besides the district's more imposing residences, a number of less opulent homes are also located in the district, including some small but nicely detailed workers' cottages. Finally, the district also includes a number of small apartment buildings, generally containing four to six units. More than 30 such apartments were constructed within the district boundaries between 1900 and 1920; those that remain blend nicely with the large homes in the area due to their similar scale and setback.

During the 1940's the Herron-Morton Place area began to decline, and by the early 1970's much of the area had deteriorated to near slum-like conditions. A sizable amount of the housing stock was lost during this period due to fire, neglect, and forced demolition. The majority has survived, however, and the area today boasts one of the finest collections of late 19th and early 20th century residential architecture in the city. Restoration has been initiated or completed in a considerable number of houses in the neighborhood, thanks, in part, to the impetus provided by the Herron-Morton Place Association, Inc., a non-profit neighborhood organization.

Following are descriptions of 40 individual structures that constitute a sampling of the building types and architectural styles found in the district. The examples range in date from the 1870's to the 1930's and represent all major architectural developments. Photograph numbers correspond to the accompanying photos and the sketch map of the district.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below				
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

Specific dates 1822-present Builder Architect Various

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Herron-Morton Place Historic District is significant for its outstanding collection of late 19th and early 20th century residential architecture. The area is also significant for its association with some of Indianapolis' most prominent business and political leaders, as well as for its role in the development of the city's heritage in the fine arts. Historically, the area is notable as the first permanent location of the Indiana State Fairgrounds, and as the site of the Union's third largest Civil War prison camp. Although much of the area had deteriorated to near-slum conditions after the 1940's, the neighborhood is currently being revitalized, with numerous homes the recipients of extensive renovation work.

The area known as Herron-Morton Place was originally part of a 160-acre land patent granted to Thomas O'Neal in November, 1822. Thirteen years later, O'Neal sold the land to Samuel Henderson, Indianapolis' first postmaster and later its first mayor (1847-1849). Except for improvements made by the State to remedy drainage problems in the area in 1839, and thus prevent the repeated flooding of some parts of Indianapolis a mile farther south, the area remained largely undeveloped. However, a 36-acre wooded tract, now bounded roughly by 19th Street, Talbott Street, 22nd Street, and Central Avenue, known at the time as Henderson's Grove, became a popular picnic spot around the middle of the 19th century. Henderson sold the land in 1850; approximately 80 acres, west of what is now Delaware Street was purchased by Elizabeth Tinker, while the rest of the area east of Delaware was purchased by William A. Otis.

In 1859, Otis made his land available for sale. It was purchased by the Indiana State Board of Agriculture for development as a permanent home for the Indiana State Fair, which heretofore had been held at a variety of different sites across the state. The area now bounded by 19th Street, Talbott Street, 22nd Street, and Central Avenue was designated the new State Fairgrounds, being considered far enough from the city so as not to interfere with Indianapolis residents, while close enough to allow easy access. Several buildings were constructed on the site, including an exhibition hall, office, and a number of livestock barns. When the Civil War began in 1861, however, the area was requisitioned by Indiana Governor Oliver P. Morton to fill another pressing need.

Answering Lincoln's call for volunteers, Morton initiated a recruiting campaign and arranged to use the new State Fairgrounds as an induction encampment. The fairgrounds buildings soon served as the living quarters for some 5,000 new soldiers, and the encampment was named Camp Morton. In early 1862, Camp Morton was enclosed with a stout oak palisade and became a prison camp for captured Confederate soldiers. By the war's end, 15,000 rebel troops had been interred at the camp, with a peak population, occurring in July of 1864, reaching approximately 5,000 men. To guard these prisoners, Union troops were stationed in an encampment known as Camp Burnside, extending south of Camp Morton to what is now 16th Street. After the war, the land was returned to the State Board of Agriculture.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please See Continuation Sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 147 Acres

Quadrangle name Indianapolis West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name title Alan Goebes

organization Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Association  
Jerry Handfield, President

date February, 1983

street & number 2143 N. Delaware

telephone 923-6025

city or town Indianapolis

state Indiana

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *James M. R. DeLeon*

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 21, 1983

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



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HERRON SCHOOL OF ART 1600 N. Pennsylvania Street Photo #1

This site was formerly the location of the Elizabeth Tinker Talbott home. In 1902 John Herron, a local patron of the arts, left a bequest to the local art association to establish an art school and museum. The Talbott house was purchased for this purpose and was used until 1905. At that time the house was razed and this three story, Neo-Classical building was constructed. The building was designed by Vonnegut and Bohn, one of the city's leading architectural firms, and was completed in 1906. Herron School of Art, part of the city's combined Indiana University-Purdue University extension program, has used the building exclusively for art instruction since the 1970 relocation of the museum to a site outside of the district.

HERRON SCHOOL OF ART 1701 N. Pennsylvania Street Photo #2

This two-story brick building was erected in 1929 to provide additional classroom space for the art school. It features industrial-style window sash and limestone and copper detailing in the Art Deco mode. The architect was Paul Philippe Cret, who also designed the Indianapolis Public Library and the Pan-American Union Building in Washington, D.C.

1734 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #6

This Tudor Revival home, built in 1914, was the home, albeit briefly, of one of the neighborhood's most prominent citizens. Cassius S. Shirley, a local lawyer and United States Attorney General under President Benjamin Harrison, lived in the house in 1914-1915. Later, it was the home of Howard Larson, a salesman for the Crescent Paper Company, and John Graham McKay, a lawyer and tennis player of national renown. The home is rectangular in plan with a medium-pitch gable roof. The main (east) facade, a gable end wall, features plain box cornice returns. The home's Tudor influence can be seen in the stuccoed, half-timbered exterior wall treatment. This house has been well-maintained and is currently in excellent condition.

1857 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #8

Joseph R. Adams, a painting contractor, built this house in 1895 and lived here until 1909. In 1910 the home was purchased by John R. Welch. The home features a symmetrical main facade with chamfered corners and Classic Revival detailing. The bowed front porch has Ionic columns, and both the porch and the main roof feature an entablature with dentils and cyma-reversa molding. The second floor features an arcade composed of three arches centered over the main entry. A large dormer over the center of the house features a triple window unit with a heavy hood mold with a pronounced keystone. The home is currently covered with inappropriate siding.

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## 1901 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #11

This two-story frame house was built in 1898 for Pearl Havelich, who owned a cement contracting company and also was involved in residential real estate development. After 1907, the home was the residence of Samuel Pickens, a local attorney, who helped organize the Indiana Bar Association. The house, itself, features a symmetrical main facade, with identical polygonal bays on either side of a center entryway. The front porch features fluted columns; those flanking the entry are of the Ionic order while the rest are Doric. Roof trim includes modillions under the eaves, with a row of dentils below. Decorative, carved wooden panels appear under the second-floor windows on the main (west) facade. Chimneys on the south facade feature corbelled brick and limestone trim.

## 1939 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #15

This large, frame, Queen Anne style home was constructed around 1896 as the home of William H. Block. Block and a partner had established successful department stores in Kokomo, Columbus, and Anderson, but he sold his interest in 1895 to come to Indianapolis and start his own store, the William H. Block Company, still one of the largest in the city. This home features a bowed front bay, fishscale siding, a jerkin-head roof, and an unusual flared chimney. The original porch was removed and replaced with a brick porch around 1950; this has since been removed and the house is currently undergoing renovation.

## 2101 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #18

This site was empty until 1914, when John Aufderheide, an investment broker, erected this three-story apartment house at a cost of \$20,000. Called "The Louvain," the building is brick with a low-pitch, clay tile roof. The symmetrical main (west) facade features square towers at the north and south ends. These towers have large casement windows on each level; decorative brick panels appear between floor levels, separating these window groupings. The main entry is surmounted by a rounded arch transom and flanked by sidelights; these sidelights, in turn, are flanked by limestone pilasters which serve as the imposts for a heavy, rounded-arch, limestone hood mold. Roof trim on the main facade includes large overhangs with ornate cornice brackets. This building is being renovated by its current owner, the Holy Order of Mans.

## 2117 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #19

This home was built in 1890 by Frank W. Flanner, a mortician whose firm, Flanner and Buchanan, still exists. Later, from 1904 until 1913, the residence was the home of Walter Goodall, secretary of the H. J. Holliday Company. The moderate-size Queen Anne home features a low, polygonal tower on the southwest corner of the main (west) facade. The front porch retains its turned wood balustrade and frieze, and the tympanum in the pediment of the porch features a pierced and sawn design.

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2136 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Photo #21

George Van Camp, president of the Van Camp Packing and Products Company, built this Queen Anne style home in 1893. He lived in the house until 1913, when he sold the home to his brother-in-law, John W. Bowlus, a local politician. The home features turned wooden columns with fan-like brackets on the front porch and a two-story polygonal bay on the south side of the main (east) facade. Shingles are employed as exterior siding in the dormers and the gable areas.

2132-2152 TALBOTT

Photo #30

One of the oldest apartment complexes in the area, this group of five buildings, known as the Warrick Flats, was constructed in 1906. Similar in scale to many of the houses in the neighborhood, these two-story brick veneer structures feature limestone window sills and lintels, flat roofs, and two-story front porches. Although currently in a state of disrepair, they have recently been purchased by Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, a private, non-profit preservation organization, which will maintain protective covenants on the buildings.

2145 TALBOTT STREET

Photo #26

This two-story theatre was built of buff-colored brick with terra cotta detailing. Stylized Greek tragedy/comedy masks, fashioned out of terra cotta, appear in brick panels on the second floor level, but historic photos show that these were later additions. Corbelling and other decorative brick-work is used throughout the main facade. This theater was called the Talbott Theater when it was built in 1927, and featured a two manual, five rank, Louisville organ. It has since been used as a live theater under various names including the Coronet, the Encore, and the Black Curtain. It is currently operated as a disco and bar.

2023 TALBOTT STREET

Photo #34

Edward Nell, director of the Indianapolis Metropolitan School of Music, built this home in 1905. A nicely detailed American foursquare, the house features the same geometric pattern in the attic dormer windows as is used in the front porch balustrade. The home recently was repainted in historically-appropriate colors.

1902 TALBOTT STREET

Photo #39

The Bellaire, an apartment building at the northwest corner of 19th and Talbott, was constructed in 1915 at a cost of \$15,000. This three-story structure featured two large apartments on each floor, with a separate porch on the east facade for each unit. This building is typical of the four-to-six-unit apartment buildings constructed along Central and Talbott between 1906 and 1920.

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1810 TALBOTT STREET

Photo #43

This unusual but handsome home contains elements from several architectural styles. The building's rectangular plan, hipped roof, and symmetrical main facade are typical of the early 20th century American foursquare. A small bay window projects from the south facade on the ground floor level. A Classic Revival-style portico shelters the centrally-located main entry. A Palladian window appears on the second floor over the portico. The first floor level features wooden clapboard siding, while the second floor is sided with cedar shingles. This house, built in 1911, was the home of Alfred Brandt, a local florist.

1610 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #54

William C. Bobbs built this two-story frame Queen Anne home in 1897. Bobbs had served as president of the Bowen Merrill Publishing Company and eventually changed the company's name to Bobbs-Merrill. He lived in this home until 1909, when he sold the home to Frederick Ayres, president of L. S. Ayres and Company, still Indianapolis' premier department store. The home features a large polygonal bay in the northeast corner of the second-story level. Knee braces visually support this feature. Stick-style ornamentation decorates the stuccoed gable areas throughout the house.

1832 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #66

Edward Leible, a cashier and assistant treasurer for the Indianapolis Water Company, built this home in 1886. One of the more grandiose expressions of the Queen Anne style to be found in the area, the house features a multi-gabled roofline, chamfered corners on the main facade's center bay, a tower with a conical roof, and elaborate wood trim. Wooden banding is used in the frieze area and the chimney features elaborate brick detailing and clay chimney pots. At one time covered with asphalt siding, the home was recently restored to its former grandeur.

1922-1924 DELAWARE

Photo #71

This large Queen Anne home was built by Attorney Harry Bowser in 1897. It was subsequently owned by Samuel Ashby, also an attorney, and by City Building Commissioner, Francis Hamilton. This 2½ story home features a large tower with a conical roof on the southeast corner. The exterior siding is clapboard below the second story roofline, while imbricated shingle siding appears in the gables and the tower. Wooden banding is used to connect the second-story windowsills and lintels in a manner reminiscent of the belt coursing used on masonry structures. The porch roof features a pediment with a decorated tympanum over the entry.



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## 1932 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #75

The main facade of this residence is quite similar in design to that of 1922-24 Delaware, two doors to the south. Both houses feature towers on the southeast corners, and both have similar gable and dormer arrangements in the roofline. The tower on 1932 is smaller in diameter than that of 1922, and since it rises from the second floor level, it could be termed a turret. This is decorated with garlands and modillions below the conical roof. The tower configuration and the tall, narrow second-floor windows give this house a more vertical emphasis than 1922-24.

## 1933 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #74

This imposing brick structure was built in 1909 in the Colonial Revival style. Originally, it was the home of John Barnhill, a physician who wrote medical tracts and historical novels. He, in turn, sold the house to Willis Gatch, dean of Indiana University Medical School and the inventor of the first adjustable hospital bed. The home has a symmetrical main facade with a centrally-located, main entry. This entryway is protected by a portico decorated with dentils; the entry door, itself, is flanked by sidelights and surmounted by an elliptical transom. Flat arch window heads over both the first and second floor windows are of brick with limestone detailing. French doors on the second floor give access to the roof of the portico, which serves as a balcony. An ornate, Georgian-style dormer in the attic area features paired pilasters supporting the gable returns. Brickwork on the corners of the house is articulated to simulate quoining. The retaining wall separating the front yard from the city sidewalk is constructed of the same brick used in the house.

## 1941 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #78

John H. Talge, president of the Talge Mahogany Company, moved to this address in 1910 from 1527 Broadway, now part of the Indianapolis Old Northside Historic District. Talge maintained a residence here until 1924, when he moved farther north. This is a two-and-one-half story house built of rusticated, random-course stone. The home features a low-pitched, hipped roof with dormers and wide overhanging eaves. Dressed stone string courses connect the sills of the windows on the first and second floors. The front porch features Ionic columns and a turned wooden balustrade.

## 2001 DELAWARE STREET

Photo #80

This handsome frame home was once the residence of Orlando Hackett, president of the O. D. Hackett Lumber Company. The house features a step gable roof and has a gable end wall for its main (west) facade. The gable area features a multi-paned, double-hung window flanked by quarter-round windows. The front porch was reconstructed and the exterior of the house repainted in historically accurate colors in the course of a recent renovation.

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2027 Delaware Street

Photo #83

This large rambling home was the abode of Dr. George S. Row, a local oculist, for 30 years. Built around 1898, the home features a rounded bay window on the second floor, and a polygonal bay on the ground floor. The porch roof is supported by square columns and has a plain frieze surmounted by a row of dentils. The interior of the home features intricate oak woodwork.

2036 Delaware Street

Photo #85

From 1907 until 1921, this was the home of Gustave Efroymsen, president of H. P. Wasson and Company, a local department store. Walter K. Mayer lived here from 1923 to 1928; Mayer was secretary/treasurer of the George J. Meyer Company, which manufactured name plates and stamps. It is a two-story, brown brick home with a red clay tile, hipped roof. The south side of the main (east) facade features a two story polygonal bay, and a limestone belt course defines the water table. The porch balustrade features simple limestone balusters.

2063 Delaware Street

Photo #86

This simple American foursquare has a brick porch with articulated brick columns and wide, overhanging eaves. Simple limestone windowsills provide the only relief from the otherwise plain facade. This was once the home of Moses Selig, a wealthy Indianapolis clothier; later in the the 1920's, it was the residence of Bert A. Worthington, president of Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Western Railroad.

2102 Delaware Street

Photo #88

This Queen Anne style home has suffered the addition of siding, but it is worthy of note as the one-time Indiana Governor's Mansion. For a number of years, Indiana left it up to the current state governor to provide a residence for himself in Indianapolis during his term of office. When Samuel Ralston was governor from 1913 to 1917, he used this home as his official residence. The home is thought to date back to 1897.

2115 Alabama

Photo #94

Samuel Van Camp, general manager of the Van Camp Hardware and Iron Company, was a long-time resident of this large Queen Anne home. Although long neglected, the home still features most of its exterior detailing, including the ornate gable and dormer trim, gauged-brick chimney, and roof finials. The house is currently undergoing an extensive renovation.

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2038 Alabama Street

Photo #96

This well-maintained Queen Anne-style home was built in 1895, and passed through a succession of owners until 1922, when it was purchased by James H. Hegarty. Hegarty had immigrated to this country from Ireland and made his living running a tavern on the south side of Indianapolis. Two of his children still live in this house, which features a second-story bow window, carved wooden panels, fishscale siding, and ornate cornice brackets.

1853-1855 Alabama Street

Photo #102

This three-story brick commercial building features a cast iron front by Hetherington and Berner, a local iron foundry. The building features a corner entry surmounted by a round bay window. Stone string courses run around the north and west facades in line with the window heads and sills. The cast-iron balconies served the apartments which were originally found on the upper two floors. The ground floor for many years housed a drugstore and a grocery.

1816 Alabama

Photo #104

Henry C. Thomson, a bookkeeper, built this home in 1898. The frame structure features shingle siding in the gable areas, and an octagonal tower on the north end of the second floor. The porch roof features a pediment with a decorated tympanum. The porch columns and balustrade are from a later remodeling.

1715 Alabama

Photo #105

Charles F. Smith, who owned a bicycle shop at 16 North Meridian Street, built this house in 1895. A small, one-and-one-half story cottage, it features a cross plan with a medium-pitch, cross-gable roof, chamfered corners with scrollsawn trim, and fishscale siding in the gable area. The round arched opening on the upper level of the main (west) facade is covered by a delicately pierced wooden panel. The home remains basically unaltered.

1634 Alabama

Photo #109

The massive Classic Revival porch on this two-story frame house appears to be a later addition to a structure built along Italianate lines. Title information shows that the home was built in 1874 for H. W. Caldwell, a bookkeeper for the J. L. Han: Company. The polygonal bay on the south facade still retains its cornice brackets. The main (east) facade features four Ionic columns which are, in fact, too short to span the entire distance from porch floor level to cornice; as a consequence, these columns sit atop a 30" brick porch wall.

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1706 New Jersey

Photo #116

This vernacular house was built in 1887 by Hezekiah Trueblood, a machinist, and his wife, Sarah. Much of the porch detailing has been lost, but the brackets and much of the carpenter's lace in the gable areas remain intact. A decorative, pierced wooden ventilator appears in the attic area of the main facade.

1998 New Jersey

Photo #124

This home was built in 1898 for Daniel W. Lovett, who worked as a manufacturer's agent. It was purchased in 1900 by Attorney Alfred E. Dickey, who sold it to another lawyer, William Pickens, in 1906. Pickens remained in the house until 1924, when he sold it to Attorney William C. Bachelder. The house features a symmetrical main facade with a Palladian window and bowed bays, and remains one of the best maintained homes on the block.

2016 New Jersey

Photo #126

John Buehler, an officer of a local camera and art supply company (H. Lieber & Company) lived in this house for over 25 years. The house features a dentiled frieze and a polygonal tower on the northwest corner. The front porch features plain heavy columns and turned balusters.

2065 New Jersey

Photo #129

This Queen Anne-style home, located at the southeast corner of 21st and New Jersey, features a wrap-around porch with plain heavy columns. On the south end of the west facade is a two-story polygonal bay, surmounted by a gable with a Palladian window. A large, rounded-arch window flanked by pilasters appears on the second floor over the main doorway, and a round tower, now missing its conical roof, appears in the home's northwest corner. This house was built in 1901 by George W. Keyser, a heating and plumbing contractor, who lived here almost 20 years. In 1925, the home was purchased by Otto H. Klingstein, a cabinetmaker best remembered for his role in helping to found Klingstein Machinery, a local machine tool dealership.

2105 New Jersey

Photo #134

John E. Scott, a local attorney, had this house built in 1904. Two years later he sold the house to William Davis, a salesman for the Baldwin Company, a piano and organ retailer. Rectangular in plan, this stuccoed structure features a compound-arched main entry, dentils below the roofline, and a Palladian-style dormer over the west facade.

2121 New Jersey

Photo #135

Thomas Graves was the senior partner in a livestock trading firm known as Graves, Nave, and Company. He built this brick home just a year before his death in November, 1922. His wife continued to reside here until the 1930's. One of the later homes in the area,



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the structure is a one-and-one-half story bungaloid, with large, overhanging eaves and a red clay tile roof. Purlins with knee braces support the gable ends, and a brick string course defines the water table. The home is situated on a low rise approximately five feet above street level; a retaining wall of matching red brick separates the front lawn from the city sidewalk.

1956 Central

Photo #143

This handsome American foursquare features tapered porch columns, a polygonal bay on the second floor, and large attic dormers. The rooflines are decorated with modillions, and scroll-sawn brackets appear on the cornerboards of the east facade just below the eaves. The east dormer also features pilastered window trim. Built in 1906, the house was the residence of Leonard Sargent, president of a local paint dealership, Sargent Paint and Color Company.

1925 Central

Photo #147

This cottage, thought to be the oldest house in the district, may be the only Gothic Revival-style residence extant in the City of Indianapolis. Although research has thus far failed to reveal the exact date of construction, the architecture of the home suggests that it was built circa 1855-1865. Its site was originally part of a quarter-section of land first purchased and settled by Jeremiah Johnson in 1821. Johnson established a farm that was later owned and operated by his son, Thomas Johnson, who is thought to have constructed this home. An 1866 map, the oldest available which details this part of the city, indicates a structure thought to be this house on the western edge of the Johnson farm, across the road from the State Fairgrounds.

The house, itself, features vertical siding, rope molding, triangular window heads in the gable areas, and a high-pitched gable roof. Sanborn insurance maps suggest that the polygonal bay on the north facade was added sometime after 1887. Surprisingly roomy, the house contains five rooms on the ground floor and four on the second. Although unrestored, the home is basically unaltered, with the original ornate staircase, panel doors, wide woodwork, and fireplaces intact.

1718 Central

Photo #148

This modest Italianate home is one of the oldest structures in the neighborhood. Built in 1874, it features a hipped roof and segmental-arched door and window openings, but has lost its cornice brackets and original entry porch.

1626 Central

Photo #155

Dr. John Kolmer, a physician and surgeon, lived in this frame Italianate home near the intersection of 16th and Central. The house still features its elaborate scrollsawn brackets, but has suffered the addition of asphalt siding and an inappropriate front porch. Kolmer also built the Colmar Apartments at 1620 Central.

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Upon receipt of a \$9,816.56 payment for damages done to the site during the war, the Board of Agriculture rehabilitated the land, preparing it, once again, for use as a fairgrounds. Improvements to the area included the construction, in 1873, of a new Exposition Building, designed by Edwin May, later architect of the second Indiana State Capitol Building. The Indiana State Fair was held annually at this location for the next 25 years. In 1890, however, a new fairgrounds site was established approximately two miles northeast of this location.

The major reason for this move was that the city of Indianapolis had expanded to envelope the old fairgrounds. Dr. Horace Allen, a local surgeon, and Deloss Root, a successful banker and investor, had purchased the Camp Burnside area and platted it for residential development in 1870. In 1872, both men were elected to the Board of Directors of the Citizen's Street Railway Company, and were influential in improving transportation to the fairgrounds area. As the area became more accessible, it became increasingly more popular as a residential neighborhood. Elizabeth Talbott (nee Tinker), platted her landholdings in 1875, and within a few years a considerable amount of residential development had occurred in the area. Sanborn maps for 1887, the earliest available for the city of Indianapolis, show Delaware and Alabama Streets south of the fairgrounds already heavily populated; on some blocks of Delaware, between 16th and 19th Streets, almost all available lots were occupied by this time.

After the 1890 relocation of the Fairgrounds, the old location was purchased by three local businessmen, Willard W. Hubbard, Edward F. Claypool, and Elijah B. Martindale. The area was divided into 280 residential building lots and named Morton Place, after its Civil War use as Camp Morton. Morton Place was designed as an upper class residential neighborhood, and originally boasted such amenities as esplanades on the north-south streets, a feature relatively uncommon in Indianapolis. This area soon was heavily populated, also.

Throughout the late 19th century those areas of the proposed district not included in the three major subdivisions (Root and Allen's, Talbott's, and Morton Place) were platted as parts of subdivisions now largely situated outside of the proposed district boundaries (these areas lie mainly along the far eastern edge and the far northwest corner of the district). By the turn of the century, the area was completely platted and development was well underway.

Since the mid-19th century, Indianapolis' affluent have traditionally made their homes on the north side of the city. This development was caused in part by the railroad tracks which cut across the near south, east, and west sections of the city at street level, greatly impeding travel. Towards the end of the 19th century, as the city expanded, the area directly north of present-day 16th Street was perceived as one of the city's most elegant residential neighborhoods. While some of the earliest residents were not particularly wealthy or well-known, most of those who came to the area between the 1880's and the 1920's were successful professionals and businessmen. These included politicians, lawyers, doctors, industrialists, and retail merchants.

Among the most prominent political leaders to reside in the area was Albert J. Beveridge, a U.S. Senator and Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer who lived at 1723 N. Pennsylvania (Photo #5). Another resident of the neighborhood, Samuel Ralston, served as Indiana's

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Governor from 1913 to 1917, and later spent six years in the U.S. Senate. Since Indiana did not provide a residence for its governors during this era, Ralston's home at 2102 N. Delaware (Photo #88) was considered the Governor's Mansion during his term in office. John W. Kern was also a U.S. Senator and ran for the vice-presidency in 1908 as William Jennings Bryan's running mate; unfortunately, his home at 1836 N. Pennsylvania, has been demolished, along with the 1606 Pennsylvania Street home of Indiana State Attorney-General, Alonzo G. Smith (1890-1898). Still standing, however, are the homes of numerous other neighborhood residents who held lesser political offices, including those of Frank Fishback (1639 Delaware, #56), who was twice Marion County Treasurer, and James Bingham (1723 Pennsylvania, #5), a successor to Smith as Attorney-General (1906-1911).

Among the professional men of the area there were many doctors and lawyers of high repute. Willis Gatch, of 1933 Delaware (Photo #74), was a well-known doctor and medical author who invented the first adjustable hospital bed. 2050 N. Delaware (Photo #84) was the home of William N. Wishard, who helped establish the Indianapolis City Hospital (now named Wishard Memorial). Well-known attorneys in the area included William Pickens (1998 New Jersey St., #124), Samuel Ashby (1922 N. Delaware, #71), and Samuel O. Pickens (1901 Pennsylvania, #11).

The businessmen of the area included Frederick Hetherington, John Talge, and William C. Bobbs. Hetherington, who lived at 1925 Alabama, was president of a well-known structural iron and steel foundry, Hetherington and Berner, Inc. Although his house has been razed, an example of this firm's cast-iron work can be seen in the commercial building at 1855 N. Alabama. John Talge, of 1941 Delaware (Photo #78), owned a large veneer company, while William Bobbs, of 1610 N. Delaware (Photo #54) eventually came to be president of the Bobbs-Merrill Publishing firm. The city's three largest department stores were also represented in Herron-Morton Place: William H. Block, founder of the department store of the same name, lived at 1939 N. Pennsylvania (Photo #15); Frederick Ayres, president of L. S. Ayres and Company, lived at 1610 N. Delaware (Photo #54), and Gustave Efronson, president of the H. P. Wasson Company, made his home at 2036 N. Delaware (Photo #85).

Literally dozens of the area's residents could have been considered socially prominent. The Dau's Blue Book for Indianapolis, the annual social register, consistently listed Herron-Morton Place residents in great numbers throughout the early 20th century.

Architecturally, the area contains what is probably the largest and finest collection of upper and middle class homes in the region. Ranging in age from the mid-1870's to the early 20th century, these homes comprise a remarkably complete collection of the various architectural styles used in residential construction over the last one hundred years. Among the oldest homes in the district are the Italianate homes of the 1870's, including 1718 Central (Photo #148), and 1626 Central (Photo #155). Also of this vintage is the cross-plan cottage at 1705 N. Delaware (Photo #61). More typical of the area, however, and certainly more numerous are the assorted varieties of Queen Anne style architecture, popular around the turn of the century. Among the largest and most flamboyant of these are 1832 Delaware (Photo #66); 2065 New Jersey (Photo #129), and 2115 Alabama (Photo #94). All of these feature the irregular massing, elaborate wood trim, and variety of exterior surface treatments common to the style. The home at 1832 Delaware (Photo #66) also features a tower, as did 2065 New Jersey (Photo #129, at one time. Slightly less elaborate versions of the style can be found in the 1900 block of



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North Delaware (see Photos #69, 71, 75, and 77), and elsewhere throughout the district (e.g., 2016 New Jersey, #126, and 1610 Delaware, #54). These feature similar massing and some of the same detailing, but are somewhat smaller than their more ostentatious predecessors. A slightly later version of the Queen Anne style, sometimes known as Princess Anne, was greatly simplified, with considerably less exterior ornamentation. The homes at 1816 N. Alabama (Photo #104), 2038 Alabama (Photo #96), 2117 Pennsylvania (Photo #19) and 1915 Delaware (Photo #70), are among the many examples of this variety within the district. Other styles encountered in the area are the Tudor Revival, with its half-timbered exterior walls (see photos #6, 44, 49, 92, and 93), and the bungalow (Photo #135). Variations of the American foursquare range from the simplest (Photos #34 and 86), to the more elaborate (Photos #143, 85). Several of the larger homes on Pennsylvania and Delaware feature classical detailing (Photos #11, 74, and 8). Among the smaller homes in the area are the district's only Gothic Revival residence (1925 N. Central, #146), and vernacular homes such as 1705 New Jersey (Photo #116). The diversity of styles within this district, all exhibiting extensive detailing and fine craftsmanship, makes this one of the most visually stimulating areas of the city.

The Herron-Morton Place District also includes a number of early 20th century apartment buildings. Among the oldest of these is the Warrick Flats (Photo #30), a series of four structures built in 1907, on the west side of Talbott's 2100 block. The next decade saw the construction of several additional apartment structures throughout the neighborhood. Like the Warrick Flats, the majority of these are low-rise structures, two to four stories in height and exhibit some of the same architectural detailing found in the surrounding homes. These apartments were also considered prestigious addresses throughout this era. Examples include the structures at 2101 Pennsylvania (Photo #18), 1850-56 Talbott (Photo #40), and 1902 Talbott (Photo #39). Because they reflect the historical development of the community, these structures are considered contributing buildings within the district.

The Herron-Morton Place area has played a pivotal role in the development of the city's appreciation for the fine arts. The John Herron Art Institute has been located within the district since 1907. An offshoot of an earlier art school organized on the same site by noted Indiana artists T. C. Steele and William Forsythe, in 1888, the Herron Institute was made possible by a \$200,000 bequest made to the local art association in 1902. Charged with the responsibility of establishing a museum and school facility, they acquired the property at 16th and Pennsylvania and erected a series of buildings over the next several years. The museum has since relocated to larger quarters outside of the district, but the art school continues to occupy the original site. Now part of the Indiana-Purdue University extension program, it has remained the state's premier art school for over 75 years. The current buildings include the 1906 Museum building (Photo #1), a 1928 classroom/studio building designed by French architect Paul Philippe Cret (Photo #2), and a 1962 building designed by local architect, Evans Woollen, III.

A theater program was also initiated at Herron in 1914; relocated to 1847 Alabama (Photo #103) in 1926, this program evolved into the Booth Tarkington Civic Theater and remained an important cultural resource for the neighborhood and the city at large.



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for the next 45 years. In 1970 this group moved to a new location outside of the district, but the theatre building was promptly occupied by another performing arts organization, Footlight Musicals. The group now owns the building and continues to use it to present the musicals and stage productions. It is currently being renovated.

Throughout the late 1930's, the neighborhood slowly began to deteriorate. The continuing trend for the affluent to move ever farther north, coupled with the deaths of many of the original homeowners, caused the area to undergo a period of neglect and decay. Many of the large homes in the area were divided up into apartments. The area continued to deteriorate throughout the 1940's, 1950's, and early 1960's. Crime became a problem, and as an increasing segment of the older population moved or passed away, a considerable amount of the housing stock was lost to fire and forced demolition. Buildings that are considered intrusions to the historical nature of the neighborhood were largely constructed during this era; as noted on the sketch map and attached continuation sheets, these are relatively few in number, given the large size of the district.

The deterioration of this area has largely been halted over the last decade, and renovation efforts, begun in some parts of the neighborhood more than ten years ago, continue to help improve the area. The Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Association, founded in 1976, has continued to spearhead attempts to renovate homes within the area, reduce crime, and rebuild the neighborhood spirit. A significant amount of restoration work has already been accomplished and, with the help of tax incentives available for historic properties under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, this activity is expected to continue and increase in the future.

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Beginning at the northwest corner of 16th and Pennsylvania Streets, then proceeding west to the eastern edge of the alley west of Pennsylvania Street, then north to the north property line of the property at 2172 Pennsylvania, then east to the northwest corner of the property at 2169-71 Pennsylvania, then east along the north property line of that property to the eastern edge of the alley east of Pennsylvania Street, then north to the north property line of 2180 Talbott Street, then east to the eastern curblineline of Talbott Street, then north to the southern curblineline of 22nd Street, then east to the west edge of the alley east of New Jersey Street, then south to the south property line of the property at 2118 Central Avenue, then east to the southwest property line of the property at 2131 Central, then east to the western edge of the alley east of Central, then south to the northern curblineline of 16th Street, then west to the eastern edge of the alley west of New Jersey Street, then north to the northern edge of the alley north of 16th Street, then west to the western curblineline of Alabama Street, then south to the northern curblineline of 16th Street, then west to the point of beginning.

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Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Herron-Morton place Historic District can be justified by reference to both the current nature of the built environment in the area and by the history of the development of the neighborhood.

The southern boundary is irregular, but roughly parallels 16th Street. 16th Street is a major traffic artery in the city and historically represents the southern limits of Samuel Henderson's landholdings, as well as the southern boundary of the Elizabeth Talbott and Root and Allen additions to the city of Indianapolis. It also is the point at which many of the neighborhood's north-south streets deviate from the lines they follow to the south (see map). 16th Street is also the northern limit of the adjacent Old Northside Historic District, listed on the National Register in 1978. The boundary's slight irregularity results from an attempt to exclude as much as possible any intrusions which are located on 16th Street, itself.

The western boundary of the district is the alley immediately west of Pennsylvania Street. Despite a considerable amount of demolition, both sides of Pennsylvania continue to be residential in character; even most empty lots along this street are grassy areas rather than parking lots. By contrast, Meridian Street, immediately west of the alley, is lined with 20th century retail and commercial buildings of a size, scale, era, and usage completely foreign to the Herron-Morton Place area, and thus helps form the western limits of this district.

The northern boundary roughly parallels 22nd Street, another major east-west thoroughfare. This was also the northern limit of the State Fairgrounds and its successors, Camp Morton and Morton Place. North-south streets jog at this point, also, helping to delineate the area. Irregularities in the boundary again result from an attempt to exclude intrusions on the periphery of the District.

The eastern boundary of the District is the series of alleys immediately east of Central Avenue. Central was historically a major north-south artery and remains so today. Both sides of Central were included in the District because homes on the east side are similar to those on the west and throughout the District, in terms of type, scale, and age. Homes east of the District are considerably smaller and newer, and were built by residents of a different socio-economic level than those in the Herron-Morton Place Historic District.



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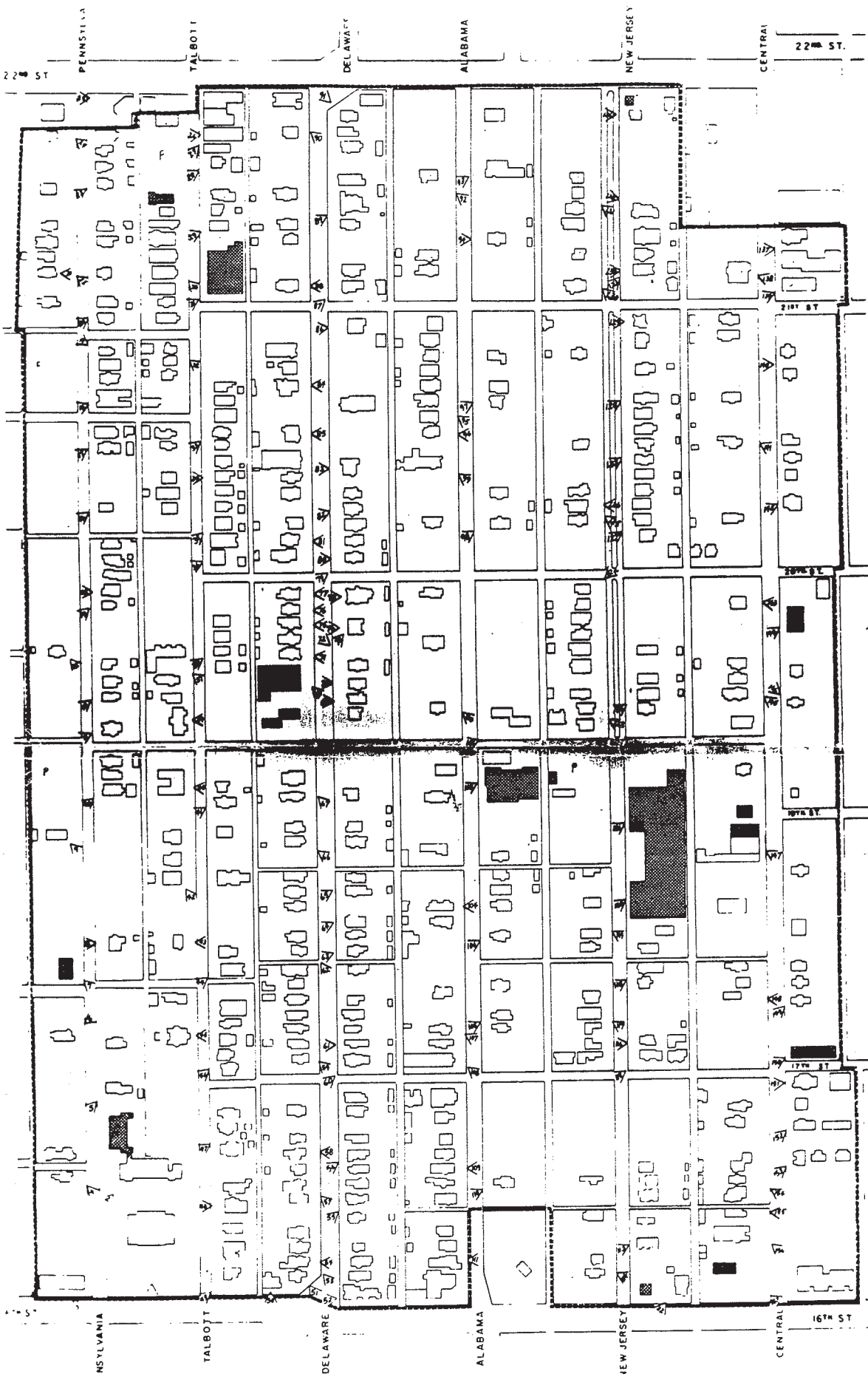
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INTRUSIONS

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Herron Art, 1962 Addition | 1700 Block Pennsylvania |
| 2. Warehouse                 | 18th and Pennsylvania   |
| 3. Antique Shop              | 2158 Talbott            |
| 4. Apartments                | 146 E. 19th Street      |
| 5. Delaware Nursing Home     | 1910 Delaware           |
| 6. Barber Shop               | 22nd and New Jersey     |
| 7. Hedback Corporation       | 1835 New Jersey         |
| 8. Liquor Store              | 400 E. 16th             |
| 9. Car Wash                  | 1602 Central            |
| 10. Apartments               | 1701-1703 Central       |
| 11. Modern Heating & Cooling | 1836 Central            |
| 12. Modern Heating & Cooling | 1900 Central            |
| 13. Midwest Woodworking      | 1951-1955 Central       |
| 14. Hedback Community Center | 1847 Alabama            |





HERRON-MORTON PLACE

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA



PHOTO

PARKING

HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY

